United Nations A/C.5/64/SR.29

General Assembly
Sixty-fourth session

Official Records

Distr.: General
25 June 2010

Original: English

Fifth Committee

Summary record of the 29th meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Tuesday, 4 May 2010, at 10 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. Maurer ..... (Switzerland)
Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions: Ms. McLurg

Contents

Agenda item 148: Financing of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire

Agenda item 149: Financing of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus

Agenda item 150: Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Agenda item 152: Financing of the United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste

Agenda item 156: Financing of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo

Agenda item 157: Financing of the United Nations Mission in Liberia

Agenda item 158: Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East

(a) United Nations Disengagement Observer Force

Agenda item 159: Financing of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan

Agenda item 160: Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara

Agenda item 163: Financing of the activities arising from Security Council resolution 1863 (2009) (*continued*)

This record is subject to correction. Corrections should be sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned *within one week of the date of publication* to the Chief of the Official Records Editing Section, room DC2-750, 2 United Nations Plaza, and incorporated in a copy of the record.

Corrections will be issued after the end of the session, in a separate corrigendum for each Committee.

10-34418 (E)

Please recycle

The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.

Agenda item 148: Financing of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (A/64/584 and Corr.1, A/64/660/Add.7 and A/64/673 and Corr.1)

Agenda item 149: Financing of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (A/64/533, A/64/629 and A/64/660/Add.5)

Agenda item 150: Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (A/64/583, A/64/660/Add.8 and A/64/670)

Agenda item 152: Financing of the United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste (A/64/617, A/64/660/Add.11 and A/64/686)

Agenda item 156: Financing of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (A/64/604, A/64/660/Add.6 and A/64/661)

Agenda item 157: Financing of the United Nations Mission in Liberia (A/64/601, A/64/647, A/64/660/Add.9 and A/64/712)

Agenda item 158: Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East

(a) United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (A/64/536 and Corr.1, A/64/630 and A/64/660/Add.4)

Agenda item 159: Financing of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan (A/64/566, A/64/632 and A/64/660/Add.3)

Agenda item 160: Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (A/64/602, A/64/636 and A/64/660/Add. 2)

Agenda item 163: Financing of activities arising from Security Council resolution 1863 (2009) (*continued*) (A/64/644 and A/64/754)

1. **Mr. Yamazaki** (Controller), introducing the performance report on the budget of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 (A/64/584 and Corr.1), said that the General Assembly had appropriated funding of $475,402,600 for the maintenance of the Mission and that expenditure had amounted to $475,373,300, leaving an unencumbered balance of $29,300, which represented near-full utilization of resources. The main causes of the variance were reduced requirements for communications, fuel and rotation and repatriation of United Nations police, offset by additional requirements for military personnel, owing to higher than expected costs for commercial air charter services. The General Assembly was invited to take the actions set out in paragraph 50 of the performance report.

2. The proposed budget of $492,535,700 for the period from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011 (A/64/673 and Corr.1) reflected a 0.2 per cent increase relative to the funding of $491,774,100 appropriated by the General Assembly for the maintenance of the Mission for 2009/10. The main causes of the variance were additional requirements for the rental and operation of fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters based on new contract prices; for the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme; and for facilities and infrastructure, stemming from residential security costs and the cost of electricity, petrol, oil and lubricants. The General Assembly was invited to take the actions set out in paragraph 77 of the budget report.

3. Introducing the performance report on the budget of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 (A/64/533), he said that the General Assembly had appropriated funding of $54,943,000 for the maintenance of the Force and that expenditure had amounted to $54,728,000, leaving an unencumbered balance of $123,100, which represented a utilization rate of 99.8 per cent. The main cause of the variance was lower actual costs for the rotation of contingents, offset by increased requirements for facilities and infrastructure and international staff. The General Assembly was invited to take the actions set out in paragraph 31 of the performance report.

4. The proposed budget of $57,040,000 for the period from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011 (A/64/629) reflected a 4.8 per cent increase relative to the funding of $54,412,700 appropriated by the General Assembly for the maintenance of the Force for 2009/10. The main causes of the variance were additional salary and related staff costs; greater maintenance costs based on the terms of new contracts, increased costs of water, gas and construction services; and an increase in the cost of flight hours and aviation fuel for two helicopters. The General Assembly was invited to take the actions set out in paragraph 38 of the budget report.

5. Introducing the performance report on the budget of the United Nations Organization Mission in the

Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 (A/64/583), he said that the General Assembly had appropriated funding of $1,187,676,400 for the maintenance of the Mission and that expenditure had amounted to $1,163,341,800, leaving an unencumbered balance of $24,334,600, which represented a utilization rate of 98.0 per cent. The main causes of the variance were reduced requirements for air transportation because of the non-deployment of rotary- and fixed-wing aircraft in support of local elections; non-acquisition of unmanned aerial vehicles; procurement delays relating to air-traffic control equipment; and non-implementation or partial implementation of planned airfield services. Those reduced requirements were offset by additional requirements for diesel fuel and rations; for national salaries and related costs; for the acquisition of tents, prefabricated units and firefighting equipment and for the establishment of new camps for additional military personnel. The General Assembly was invited to take the actions set out in paragraph 46 of the performance report.

6. The proposed budget of $1,440,094,400 for the period from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011 (A/64/670) reflected a 6.9 per cent increase relative to the funding of $1,346,584,600 appropriated by the General Assembly for the maintenance of the Mission for 2009/10. The main causes of the variance were the full deployment of 2,785 additional military contingent personnel authorized by the Security Council in its resolution 1843 (2008); additional operating and maintenance fees for the turnkey fuel contract and for the proposed strategic fuel reserve; and additional requirements associated with an increase in international posts and with the implementation of General Assembly resolution 63/250 on human resources management. The General Assembly was invited to take the actions set out in paragraph 165 of the budget report.

7. Introducing the performance report on the budget of the United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste (UNMIT) for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 (A/64/617), he said that the General Assembly had appropriated funding of $172,842,000 for the maintenance of the Mission and that expenditure had amounted to $172,814,500, leaving an unencumbered balance of $27,500, which represented near-full utilization of resources. The main causes of the variance were reduced operating costs attributable primarily to lower than forecast consumption of diesel fuel; the use of in-house expertise to build hard-walled accommodation instead of acquiring prefabricated units; delayed deployment of search-and-rescue aircraft; and the reduction in the cost of commercial communications owing to non-implementation of the project for leased lines between the Mission and the United Nations Logistics Base. Those reduced requirements were offset by higher costs deriving from increased mission subsistence allowance, revised salary scales and lower vacancy rates. The General Assembly was invited to take the actions set out in paragraph 62 of the performance report.

8. The proposed budget of $208,838,400 for the period from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011 (A/64/686) reflected a 1.4 per cent increase relative to the funding of $205,939,400 appropriated by the General Assembly for the maintenance of the Mission for 2009/10. The main causes of the variance were additional human resources costs associated with security, rule-of-law and support components and increased salary costs including post-adjustment and common staff costs in connection with revised salary scales and the implementation of General Assembly resolution 63/250 on human resources management. The General Assembly was invited to take the actions set out in paragraph 117 of the budget report.

9. Introducing the performance report on the budget of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 (A/64/604), he said that the General Assembly had appropriated funding of $198,012,000 for the maintenance of the Mission and that expenditure had amounted to $168,523,300, leaving an unencumbered balance of $29,488,700, which represented a utilization rate of 85.1 per cent. The main cause of the variance was the reconfiguration and downsizing of the Mission in connection with the deployment of the European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo (EULEX) on 9 December 2008, and the declaration of independence by Kosovo. The General Assembly was invited to take the actions set out in paragraph 37 of the performance report.

10. The proposed budget of $48,357,900 for the period from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011 (A/64/661) reflected a 3.3 per cent increase relative to the funding of $46,809,000 appropriated by the General Assembly for the maintenance of the Mission for 2009/10. The main causes of the variance were additional

requirements for national and international staff as a result of lower vacancy rates, an updated salary scale for national staff, and new conditions of service for international staff in connection with revised salary scales and the implementation of General Assembly resolution 63/250 on human resources management, as well as the replacement of vehicles 10 or more years old. The General Assembly was invited to take the actions set out in paragraph 56 of the budget report.

11. Introducing the performance report on the budget of the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 (A/64/601), he said that the General Assembly had appropriated funding of $603,708,000 for the maintenance of the Mission and that expenditure had amounted to $593,468,900, leaving an unencumbered balance of $10,239,100, which represented a utilization rate of 98.3 per cent. The main causes of the variance were a reduction in the strength of the Mission's contingent personnel; increased requirements for military observers and United Nations police officers because of slower-than-projected drawdown and an increase in mission subsistence allowance; higher than expected vacancy rates for national staff; and increased air transportation costs because of an increase in the price of diesel and aviation fuel and the deployment of an additional helicopter. The General Assembly was invited to take the actions set out in paragraph 52 of the performance report.

12. The proposed budget of $536,049,600 for the period from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011 (A/64/647) reflected a 4.4 per cent reduction relative to the funding of $560,978,700 appropriated by the General Assembly for the maintenance of the Mission for 2009/10. The main cause of the variance was the reduction in the number of contingent personnel deployed in the context of completion of the third phase of the drawdown of the Mission's military component. The General Assembly was invited to take the actions set out in paragraph 77 of the budget report.

13. Introducing the performance report on the budget of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 (A/64/536 and Corr.1), he said that the General Assembly had appropriated funding of $45,726,000 for the maintenance of the Mission and that expenditure had amounted to $45,711,800, leaving an unencumbered balance of $14,200, which represented near-full utilization of resources. The main causes of the variance were reduced facilities and infrastructure costs because of reduced requirements for security walls, the cancellation of the acquisition of hand-held scanners that failed to meet United Nations specifications, and lower unit costs for the acquisition of observation equipment, offset by additional military personnel costs caused by the greater price of rations and charter flights used for troop rotation, and additional requirements for national and international staff as a result of the revision of salary scales. The General Assembly was invited to take the actions set out in paragraph 26 of the performance report.

14. The proposed budget of $47,921,100 for the period from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011 (A/64/630) reflected a 6.4 per cent increase relative to the funding of $45,029,700 appropriated by the General Assembly for the maintenance of the Mission for 2009/10. The main causes of the variance were additional requirements for the rotation of military contingents; for international staff, primarily because of the new salary scale; and for the replacement of refrigeration, accommodation, office and firefighting equipment due to damage and obsolescence. The General Assembly was invited to take the actions set out in paragraph 57 of the budget report.

15. Introducing the performance report on the budget of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan (UNMIS) for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 (A/64/566), he said that the General Assembly had appropriated funding of $876,893,700 for the maintenance of the Mission and that expenditure had amounted to $860,488,100, leaving an unencumbered balance of $16,405,500, which represented an implementation rate of 98.1 per cent. The main causes of the variance were the lower number of United Nations police officers receiving the mission subsistence allowance rate applicable for the first 30 days, because of fewer rotations; the non-acceptance of the bid for the reconstruction of aprons for Mission aircraft in Juba because of its excessive cost; and delays in implementing the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme. The General Assembly was invited to take the actions set out in paragraph 71 of the performance report.

16. The proposed budget of $977,309,700 for the period from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011 (A/64/632) reflected a 2.0 per cent increase relative to the funding of $958,350,200 appropriated by the General Assembly for the maintenance of the Mission for 2009/10. The

main causes of the variance were additional requirements for military contingents because of greater troop-rotation costs, greater major equipment costs based on the memorandums of understanding signed and an expected rise in the cost of rations; additional requirements for national staff, as a result of the application of a higher average national salary scale; and additional requirements for air transportation due to higher guaranteed and hourly rental and operation contractual costs. The General Assembly was invited to take the actions set out in paragraph 150 of the budget report.

17. Introducing the performance report on the budget of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 (A/64/602), he said that the General Assembly had appropriated funding of $45,600,800 for the maintenance of the Mission and that expenditure had amounted to $45,060,800, leaving an unencumbered balance of $540,000, which represented an implementation rate of 98.8 per cent. The main causes of the variance were lower requirements for the rental and operation of fixed-wing aircraft because of fewer flying hours and consequently reduced requirements for aviation fuel, and, additionally, reimbursement from the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for flights in support of the confidence-building measures programme; reduced requirements for the acquisition of prefabricated facilities and security and safety equipment; and non-acquisition of refrigeration equipment. The General Assembly was invited to take the actions set out in paragraph 41 of the performance report.

18. The proposed budget of $58,230,900 for the period from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011 (A/64/636) reflected an 8.8 per cent increase relative to the funding of $53,527,600 appropriated by the General Assembly for the maintenance of the Mission for 2009/10. The main causes of the variance were increased costs for the rental and operation of the Mission's helicopter fleet, because of new contract arrangements; additional requirements for international staff associated with a revised salary scale and the implementation of General Assembly resolution 63/250 on human resources management; and increased provision for mine clearance and mine detection and surveying equipment. The General Assembly was invited to take the actions set out in paragraph 59 of the budget report.

19. Introducing the proposed budget for the financing of support to the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) for the period from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011 (A/64/644), he said that the amount concerned, $205,221,300, reflected a 3.9 per cent decrease relative to the funding of $213,580,000 appropriated by the General Assembly for support to the Mission for 2009/10. The main causes of the variance were a reduction in the provision for freight and related charges associated with the movement of contingent-owned equipment; reduced requirements for the acquisition of vehicles and information and communication technology equipment; and a reduction due to the fact that positions in the Headquarters planning teams were expected to be funded from the support account for peacekeeping operations. The General Assembly was invited to take the actions set out in paragraph 102 of the budget report.

20. **Ms. McLurg** (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions), introducing the Advisory Committee's report on the financing of UNOCI (A/64/660/Add.7), said that its recommendations regarding the Operation's proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011 would entail an overall reduction of $957,500. The Advisory Committee recommended approval of most of the staffing proposals in the budget report, with the exception of certain additional posts and the conversion of contractors' functions into established posts under the support component. It had taken account of the planned reduction in personnel and the forthcoming Security Council review of the mandate of UNOCI, and the indication by the Secretary-General that any implications of the review for the resource requirements for 2010/11 should be reported to the Assembly at its sixty-fifth session. The Advisory Committee's recommendations regarding the performance report for UNOCI were set out in paragraph 37 of its report.

21. Introducing the Advisory Committee's report on the financing of UNFICYP (A/64/660/Add.5), she said that its recommendations regarding the Force's proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011 would entail an overall reduction of $145,400. As it expected that a long-standing, stable mission like UNFICYP would find personnel requirements reduced by efficiency gains, the Advisory

Committee recommended against the request for general temporary assistance for a civil affairs officer and the establishment of a United Nations Volunteer position.

22. The Advisory Committee reiterated the recommendation originally made in its report on the proposed budget for the Force for 2009/10 (A/63/746/Add.9) that the Secretary-General should review the structure of UNFICYP and the Secretary-General's good offices for Cyprus with a view to avoiding duplication of substantive and support functions. In connection with inter-mission support and cooperation, the Advisory Committee saw merit in the proposal to strengthen and formalize the regional coordination of information and communications technology services in UNFICYP, UNDOF and the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO), a measure which was expected to result in collective recurrent annual savings of approximately $3.5 million.

23. The Advisory Committee's recommendations regarding the performance report for UNFICYP were set out in paragraph 34 of its report.

24. Introducing the Advisory Committee's report on the financing of MONUC (A/64/660/Add.8), she said that its recommendations regarding the Mission's proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011 would entail an overall reduction of $29,744,200. While the Advisory Committee was aware that the future form and focus of the Mission was under discussion, it had considered the Secretary-General's budgetary proposals in the light of the Mission's current mandate and its recommendations were made without prejudice to any decision of the Security Council regarding that mandate. If such a decision resulted in financial implications, revised budget estimates must be submitted.

25. The Advisory Committee recommended the application of a 4 per cent, rather than the proposed 3 per cent, delayed deployment factor to the budget estimates for military and police personnel. Taking into account the Mission's mandated role to protect civilians and the request of the Security Council that the Mission should plan a progressive handover of its tasks in the western provinces, the Advisory Committee recommended against approval of a number of proposed new civilian posts, taking the view that their functions could be accommodated within existing resources. It also recommended an overall reduction of 4 per cent in the estimated resource requirements for operational costs in view of the past pattern of underexpenditure, especially in the area of air operations.

26. The Advisory Committee's recommendations regarding the performance report for MONUC were set out in paragraph 84 of its report.

27. Introducing the Advisory Committee's report on the financing of UNMIT (A/64/660/Add.11), she said that its recommendations regarding the Mission's proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011 would entail an overall reduction of $2,026,800. In the light of the importance of building capacity within the National Police of Timor-Leste (PNTL), it recommended approval of the staffing proposals for the Mission, with the exception of one P-3 post in the Office of the Police Commissioner. The Advisory Committee's recommendations regarding the performance report for UNMIT were set out in paragraph 39 of its report.

28. Introducing the Advisory Committee's report on the financing of UNMIK (A/64/660/Add.6), she said that the Advisory Committee was recommending approval of the proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011. However, it recommended that the next budget submission should include an evaluation of the results of the ongoing four-phase plan to reduce support costs and trusted that the lessons learned from the reconfiguration and downsizing of the Mission would be applied to similar exercises in other missions.

29. The Advisory Committee's recommendations regarding the performance report for UNMIK were set out in paragraph 32 of its report.

30. Introducing the Advisory Committee's report on the financing of UNMIL (A/64/660/Add.9), she said that its recommendations regarding the Mission's proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011 would entail an overall reduction of $6,289,600. In view of the planned withdrawal of some 2,000 military personnel, the Advisory Committee recommended a reduction in the requirements for air transportation and official travel. In addition, having learned of the repatriation of 100 members of the Mongolian Guard Force at the Special Court for Sierra Leone subsequent to the preparation of the Mission's

budget proposal, the Advisory Committee recommended a further reduction of $2,926,700.

31. The Advisory Committee recommended approval of the proposal to establish one P-4 post for a Security Reform Adviser, the conversion of three international posts to National Officer posts and the reclassification of three General Service posts to National Officer posts and the abolition of one Field Service post. It noted that the proposed budget had made no provision for election support apart from consultancy services, as the full extent of requirements could not be determined.

32. The Advisory Committee's recommendations regarding the performance report for UNMIL were set out in paragraph 53 of its report.

33. Introducing the Advisory Committee's report on the financing of UNDOF (A/64/660/Add.4), she said that the Advisory Committee was recommending approval of the proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011. It had noted the participation of the Force in the regional information and communication technology initiative with UNFICYP, the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) and UNTSO and had been informed of the consequent reduction in equipment-related costs of some $386,000, offset by additional requirements of $69,600 resulting from the proposed reclassification of the Chief of the Communications and Information Technology Section as Deputy Chief of the Regional Information and Communications Technology Services.

34. The Advisory Committee's recommendations regarding the performance report for UNDOF were set out in paragraph 32 of its report.

35. Introducing the Advisory Committee's report on the financing of UNMIS (A/64/660/Add.3), she said that its recommendations regarding the Mission's proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011 would entail an overall reduction of $38,964,300. In view of past expenditure patterns, the potential to use the less costly southern supply route and the need to contain aircraft rental costs, the Advisory Committee recommended a $35 million reduction in the requirements for operational costs. The Mission should continue to explore the feasibility of joint air operations with the African Union/United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID), particularly the use of long-term charters for troop rotation. In view of the vacancy rate for international staff, the Advisory Committee recommended the application of a vacancy factor of 28 per cent instead of the proposed 26 per cent.

36. Recalling the Advisory Committee's request that the effectiveness of the revised operational strategy introduced in 2009/10 should be kept under review and that, in view of the significant resources required to support that change in 2010/11, the General Assembly should be informed of the results of the review in the context of the proposed budget for 2010/11, she said that it was regretted that no full assessment in that regard had been provided.

37. The Advisory Committee's recommendations regarding the performance report for UNMIS were set out in paragraph 64 of its report.

38. Introducing the Advisory Committee's report on the financing of MINURSO (A/64/660/Add.2), she said that its recommendations regarding the Mission's proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011 would entail an overall reduction of $130,500. The Advisory Committee recommended against the proposed establishment of the post of Air Terminal Officer and the conversion to an established post of the position of Archiving Assistant. The Advisory Committee's recommendations regarding the performance report for MINURSO were set out in paragraph 40 of its report.

39. Introducing the Advisory Committee's report on the financing of support of AMISOM, which included consideration of the United Nations Support Office for AMISOM (UNSOA) (A/64/754), she said that its recommendations regarding the Mission's proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011 would entail an overall reduction of $22,716,530 because of a pattern of underexpenditure largely due to circumstances beyond the Mission's control. The Advisory Committee had addressed the difficulties experienced by the Mission in recruiting and retaining staff in its general report on the administrative and budgetary aspects of peacekeeping operations (A/64/660). Given that the Mission was in the process of reviewing the property control system to ensure compliance with the requirement for complete physical inspection of all United Nations-owned equipment by 30 June 2010, the Advisory Committee was concerned that the requisite arrangements were not already in place.

40. **Ms. Ahlenius** (Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services), introducing the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) on programme evaluation of the performance and the achievement of results by the United Nations Mission in Liberia (A/64/712), said that the comprehensive evaluation of UNMIL was the latest in a series of three. In 2009, OIOS had completed a similar evaluation of UNOCI (A/63/713) and had finalized an evaluation of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH). The General Assembly had considered the evaluation of UNOCI at its sixty-third session; OIOS had forwarded its evaluation of MINUSTAH to the Department of Peacekeeping Operations for its comments in April 2010. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 59/272, reports of OIOS which were not submitted to the General Assembly were made available on request to the Member States. The evaluation of UNMIL examined the relevance of the Mission's mandate and the progress made in achieving it, measured the Mission's outputs and efficiency in delivering them, assessed the validity of the Mission's strategies and partnership arrangements, and attempted to identify best practices for the benefit of other peacekeeping operations.

41. Substantial progress towards achieving the Mission's mandate had been observed. The Mission was perceived by the population as essential to supporting peace. Successes had been achieved in disarmament, demobilization, reintegration and repatriation efforts and in the holding of elections. However, there had been limited advances in areas requiring domestic strategies and outside funding, including reform of the security sector and judicial and correctional institutions. That lack of progress undermined the sustainability of peace and security and affected other areas of the Mission's mandate, such as the promotion of human rights.

42. Chief among the 12 recommendations made by OIOS were the need to develop an overarching strategy for security sector reform, to support the Liberia National Police, to avoid the creation of a security vacuum as the Mission downsized, and to further integration between the Mission and the United Nations country team in Liberia. Despite the challenges remaining, UNMIL had been innovative in working with the country team in the interests of greater efficiency, effectiveness and impact and of advancing the "One United Nations" approach.

43. **Mr. Coffi** (Côte d'Ivoire), speaking on behalf of the Group of African States, said that the proposed budget for each mission reflected the resource requirements for the stated period, thus advancing the Security Council's overall objective of maintaining international peace and security. The Group noted that in the 2010/11 budget period each mission would contribute to a specified number of expected accomplishments by delivering related key outputs.

44. Although commendable progress had been made in achieving mission targets during the 2009/10 period, the Group of African States called on the Secretary-General once again to urgently address such issues as high vacancy rates, high staff turnover and procurement-related problems, which all posed challenges to the full implementation of mission mandates. Quick-impact projects played an important role in that regard, and greater efforts should be made to ensure that impediments to the implementation of those projects were eliminated and that all planned projects were carried out once resources were approved.

45. All peacekeeping missions should be provided with adequate resources, yet the Advisory Committee had recommended reductions in operational resources and had applied higher vacancy factors in some cases. The Group was determined to ensure that the Committee supported the provision of all justified resources for each mission.

46. For the 2010/11 period, it was vitally important that missions should be provided with adequate resources to achieve the significant milestones they had identified, in the attainment of their objectives under results-based-budgeting frameworks. The Committee should consider the specific mandates and unique circumstances of each mission, and allocate resources accordingly.

47. **Mr. Windsor** (Australia), speaking also on behalf of Canada and New Zealand, reiterated the three delegations' support for the United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste and the promotion of long-term stability in the country. Australia and New Zealand also continued to provide extensive security assistance in Timor-Leste through the International Stabilisation Force. Despite improvements in the general security situation and in the political process in Timor-Leste, as illustrated by the completion of village elections in October 2009, much work still lay ahead. The underlying

situation remained fragile and a cautious approach was required when planning for the Mission's future, including for any substantial changes in its management.

48. The three delegations encouraged the provision of adequate resources to allow UNMIT to address the key areas of reform of the security sector, strengthening of the rule of law, promotion of democratic governance and dialogue, and economic and social development. As the provision of resources was a key principle of effective integrated peacekeeping, they supported the Secretary-General's proposal for additional civilian staff with expert skills to enhance the professionalism of the National Police of Timor-Leste and the security sector as a whole.

49. The three delegations welcomed the Mission's efforts to offset cost increases by making efficiency gains through, for example, preventive maintenance, the use of videoconferencing and in-house expertise. It was commendable that UNMIT had achieved a 15 per cent decrease in operational requirements compared with the previous year's appropriations while still fulfilling its mandate. He joined the Advisory Committee's call for those results to be emulated by other missions.

50. Efforts were also being made to fill staff vacancies expeditiously and reduce staff turnover despite significant obstacles, such as remoteness, previously lower allowance and lengthy recruitment processes. The issue of lengthy recruitment processes, in particular, which was endemic in the United Nations system as a whole, should be addressed urgently.

51. **Mr. Milanović** (Serbia) said that the continued presence of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo in the province of Kosovo and Metohija remained crucial for security, stability and respect for human rights, as mandated by Security Council resolution 1244 (1999); adequate staffing and funding were therefore required. Despite its reconfiguration and the unprecedented reduction in its staffing and budgetary resources, UNMIK had managed to perform its essential role in the unfavourable environment created by the illegal unilateral declaration of independence by the local authorities in Kosovo. It was essential for the Mission to be provided with all necessary means to discharge its mandate under the status-neutral framework.

52. It was in that context that his delegation viewed the maintenance of current staffing levels and the modest increase in the proposed budgetary resources. It welcomed the proposal to convert three general temporary assistance positions within the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, created to facilitate and enhance cooperation and coordination with the European Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo, to permanent posts. It was pleasing that one of the posts had already been filled and he hoped that the remaining two posts would be filled expeditiously. Those posts would all contribute to the successful maintenance of the role of UNMIK in such important areas as policing, customs and the judiciary by facilitating policy liaison and technical cooperation with EULEX.

53. His delegation acknowledged the role of the Office for Community Support and Facilitation, the field presence in Mitrovica and Pec municipalities, and the establishment of a post of Senior Human Rights Officer at the P-5 level which would enhance the Office's capacity to handle human rights-related issues at an appropriate level. UNMIK should continue to play an important role in facilitating the participation of representatives of the Kosovo Provisional Institutions of Self-Government in regional cooperation initiatives.

54. His delegation fully supported the external representation function of UNMIK, in keeping with its policy of full support for regional cooperation on issues of common interest. The ability of UNMIK to facilitate reconstruction activities and security arrangements in areas of cultural and religious heritage, particularly the eight Serbian Orthodox patrimonial sites, must in no way be diminished. Monitoring by UNMIK and EULEX would be of particular importance following the planned replacement of the Kosovo Force (KFOR) static guard units at those sites by Kosovo police guards. The maintenance of the administrative capacity of UNMIK to process requests for certification and authentication of documents remained of vital importance to the local population.

55. UNMIK should focus more on combating organized crime, especially narcotics trafficking, and all United Nations agencies and EULEX should cooperate to that end. The rule of law as the basis for the sustainable existence of all communities in Kosovo was of the utmost importance and must be evidenced, above all, by an increased rate of return of internally displaced persons. His delegation supported the

proposals made by the Secretary-General and endorsed by the Advisory Committee, in the hope that the proposed budgetary resources would enable UNMIK to fulfil its mandate.

56. **Mr. Diab** (Syrian Arab Republic) said that the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force had been established over 30 years earlier pursuant to Security Council resolution 350 (1974) and in response to the Israeli occupation of the Syrian Golan. Despite repeated calls for a total withdrawal to the 1967 borders, the occupation was still ongoing, and his delegation therefore maintained that, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions, the funding of UNDOF should be borne by the occupying Power. His delegation welcomed the appointment of the new Commander of the Force and the arrival of a contingent from the Philippines. It acknowledged the work being done by UNDOF and the Force's cooperation with the Syrian authorities and commended the troop-contributing countries.

57. **Mr. Bailly** (Côte d'Ivoire), speaking on agenda item 148, welcomed the political will shown by the signatories to the Ouagadougou Political Agreement to ensure that presidential elections were held in Côte d'Ivoire. Despite the technical difficulties associated with the preparation of the voters list which had prevented the presidential elections from being held as planned in November 2009, all parties had agreed to hold those elections in 2010. Although the issue of fraud concerning the voters list had given rise to electoral disputes, the different parties had reached agreement on the setting up of the new Independent Electoral Commission and the formation of a new Government. The parties had worked hard to establish a consensual modus operandi regarding the disputed list; to complete the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of former combatants; and to dismantle the former armed groups, while continuing to work towards reunifying the country.

58. With regard to the elections, efforts to resolve the dispute over the voters list would resume in May 2010. In that connection, pursuant to Security Council resolution 1911 (2010), a United Nations technical assessment mission had visited Côte d'Ivoire and would soon submit its report to the Security Council. Consequently, the Government wished all future negotiations on the financing of the 2010/11 budget of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire to focus on the resources needed for completion of the final components of the Ouagadougou Political Agreement as well as on the mandates of UNOCI laid down by the Security Council. In that regard, his delegation would welcome clarification of the measures taken by UNOCI to assist the Facilitator and his Special Representative in Abidjan in the conduct of the facilitation with the different parties, to settle any misunderstandings between them, and to resolve potential disputes amicably.

59. **Mr. Brant** (Brazil), speaking on agenda item 152, said that the Government of Timor-Leste should be congratulated for the positive developments recorded in the country in the economic, social and political arenas, including the successful holding of elections, closing of all camps for internally displaced persons, and improved livelihood and employment prospects. The National Police of Timor-Leste should also be commended for the improved security situation in the country. Nonetheless, many challenges remained, and long-term success depended on renewed efforts by the international community to support the Government of Timor-Leste and its people in consolidating those gains.

60. The United Nations presence remained indispensable in ensuring a smooth transition to recovery and development. His delegation therefore supported the cautious approach taken by the Secretary-General for a gradual drawdown of UNMIT forces based on progress in the establishment of a national police force measured against objective criteria and the situation on the ground. His delegation also supported the staffing proposals contained in the budget for 2010/11, which were aimed at strengthening the security sector and rule of law and the support component. In particular, there was a need to strengthen the professional and technical expertise of the Office of the Police Commissioner by establishing posts to support the national police force. Lastly, considering that the General Assembly, in its resolution 63/292, adopted by consensus, had disregarded the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on the management structure of UNMIT, His delegation urged the Advisory Committee, in its future reports, to refrain from repeating recommendations that had been disregarded by the General Assembly. It would continue to scrutinize very carefully the recommendations of the Advisory Committee, to ensure that the Mission had the necessary resources to discharge its mandate.

The meeting rose at 11.40 a.m.